

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
D E P A R T M E N T O F H E A L T H



Safe and Healthy Lives in Safe and Healthy Communities

**BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND
DISCIPLINE**

No. C03-130

**IN THE MATTER OF
ROBERT PAOLELLA, MD
LICENSE NUMBER MD 8017**

Consent Order

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §5-37-5.2, 1956, as amended, (2002 Reenactment) a complaint was reported to the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline regarding Robert Paoella, M.D. ("Respondent"). The complaint alleged that the Respondent changed the medical record of a patient to reflect visits to the patient at Haven Health Center, Greenville, RI

FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Respondent is a licensed physician practicing internal medicine in Rhode Island since 1991 with privileges at two area hospitals. He is a 1986 graduate of Guadalajara Medical College.
2. The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline was notified by the Division of Facilities Regulation at the Department of Health of irregularities in visits to patients who are supposed to be seen every 60 days.

3. Surveyors noted that there were no documented visits in the patient chart within the 60 period and no physician orders given. When the Board requested copies of the records, entries appeared in the chart for the time period in question. These entries were not noted as "addendum" as required. Respondent did not bill for services for the visits claimed in the "late entries" to the chart.
4. The Board finds the Respondent did not meet acceptable standards by willfully making false entries in patient records in violation of RIGL 5-37-5.1(19).

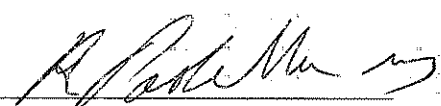
The parties agree as follows:

Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board.

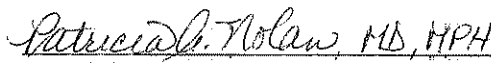
- (1) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
 - b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
 - c. The right to cross examine witnesses;
 - d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
 - e. The right to further procedural steps except for specifically contained herein;
 - f. Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
 - g. Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;

- h. Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to review adequately this Consent Order;
 - i. Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order.
- (2) Acceptance of this Consent Order constitutes an admission by the Respondent that the findings of fact were made by the Board.
 - (3) This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties.
 - (4) Failure to comply with this Consent Order, when signed and accepted, shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.
 - (5) Respondent is issued a Reprimand in the instant matter. Additionally, Respondent is required to attend the Ethics and Professionalism program at Case Western Reserve School of Medicine by December 2004.

Signed this 2nd day of March, 2004.


Robert Paoletta, M.D.

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline at a meeting held on March 10, 2004.


Patricia A. Nolan, MD, MPH
Director of Health